

WET

- WENT. *pret.* See WEND and GO.
 WET. *pret.* and part. of weep.
 She for joy tenderly wept.
 WERE. of the verb to be.
 To give our sister to one uncircumcised, were a reproach unto us.
 In infusions in things that are of too high a spirit, you we a better pour off the first infusion, and use the latter. *Bacon.*
 Henry divided, as it were.
 The person of himself into four parts. *Daniel's Civil War.*
 As though there were any fermentation in nature, or justness's imaginable in professions, this season is termed the physicians vacation. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
 He had been well assur'd that art
 And conduct were of war the better part. *Dryden.*
 WERE. *n. f.* A dam. See WEAR.
 O river! let thy bed be turned from fine gravel to weeds and mud; let some unjust niggards make weaves to spoil thy beauty. *Sid.*
 WERT. the second person singular of the preterite of to be.
 Thou wert heard.
 O that thou wert as my brother.
 All join'd, and thou of many wert but one. *Dryden.*
 WERTH. *sworth, a. r. b. n. f.* Whether initial or final in the names of places, signify a farm, court, or village; from the Saxon *werth*, used by them in the same sense. *Gilbert's Cam.*
 WESIL. *n. f.* See WESAND.
 The weel, or windpipe, we call aspera arteria. *Bacon.*
 WEST. *n. f.* [pret. Saxon; *west*, Dutch.] The region where the sun goes below the horizon at the equinoxes.
 The west yet glimmers with some streaks of day:
 Now spurs the latest traveller apace,
 To gain the timely inn. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*
 The moon in level'd west was set.
 All bright Phœbus views in early morn,
 Or when his evening beams the west adorn. *Pope.*
 WEST. *adj.* Being towards, or coming from, the region of the setting sun.
 A mighty strong west wind took away the locusts. *Ex. x.*
 This shall be your west border.
 The Phenicians had great fleets; so had the Carthaginians, which is yet farther west. *Bacon.*
 WEST. *adv.* To the west of any place.
 West of this forest.
 In goodly form comes on the enemy.
 What earth yields in India east or west.
 West from Orontes to the ocean. *Milton.*
 WESTERING. *adj.* Passing to the west.
 The star that rose at evening bright,
 Toward heav'n's descent had slop'd his westering wheel. *Milt.*
 WESTERLY. *adj.* [from *west*.] Tending or being towards the west.
 These bills give us a view of the most easterly, southerly, and westerly parts of England. *Graunt's Bill of Mortality.*
 WESTERN. *adj.* [from *west*.] Being in the west, or toward the part where the sun sets.
 Now fair Phœbus 'gan decline in haste
 His weary waggon to the western vale. *Spenser.*
 The western part is a continued rock.
 WESTWARD. *adv.* [pret. Saxon; *west*, Dutch.] Towards the west.
 By water they found the sea westward from Peru, which is always very calm. *Abbot's Description of the World.*
 The grove of lycamore,
 That westward rooteth from the city side. *Shakespeare.*
 When westward like the sun you took your way,
 And from benighted Britain bore the day. *Dryden.*
 The storm flies,
 From westward, when the show'ry kids arise. *Addison.*
 At home then stay,
 Nor westward curious take thy way. *Prior.*
 WESTWARDLY. *adv.* [from *westward*.] With tendency to the west.
 If our loves faint, and westwardly decline;
 To me thou falsely thine,
 And I to thee mine actions shall disguise. *Donne.*
 WET. *adj.* [pret. Saxon; *wet*, Danish.]
 1. Humid; having some moisture adhering.
 They are wet with the show'rs of the mountains. *Jab. xxiv.*
 The soles of the feet have great affinity with the head, and the mouth of the stomach; as going wet-shed to those that use it not, affecteth both. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
 2. Rainy; watery.
 Wet weather seldom hurts the most unwise. *Dryden.*
 WET. *n. f.* Water; humidity; moisture; rainy weather.
 Plants appearing weather'd, flabby, and curled, is the effect of immoderate wet. *Bacon.*
 Now the sun, with more effectual beams,
 Had cheer'd the face of the earth, and dry'd the wet
 From drooping plants. *Milton's Par. Regain'd.*
 Tuberoses will not endure the wet; therefore set your pots into the conserve, and keep them dry.
 Your master's riding-coat turn inside out, to preserve the outside from wet. *Swift.*

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- To WET. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
 1. To humectate; to moisten; to make to have moisture adherent.
 Better learn of him, that learned be,
 And han been watered at the mutes well;
 The kindly dew drops from the higher tree,
 And wets the little plants, that lowly dwell.
 A drop of water running swiftly over straw, wetted not. *Spenser.*
 Wet the thirsty earth with falling show'rs. *Milton.*
 2. To drench with drink.
 Let's drink the other cup to wet our whistles, and to sing away all sad thoughts. *Walton's Angler.*
 WETHER. *n. f.* [reep, Saxon; *weder*, Dutch.] A ram castrated.
 I am a tainted wether of the flock,
 Meetest for death. *Shakespeare. Merch. of Venice.*
 He doth not apprehend how the tail of an African wether outweigheth the body of a good calf, that is, an hundred pound. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*
 Although there be naturally of horses, bulls, or rams, more males than females; yet artificially, that is, by making geldings, oxen, and wethers, there are fewer. *Glauc.*
 When Blowzelind expir'd, the wether's bell
 Before the drooping flock toll'd forth her knell.
 It is much more difficult to find a fat wether, than if half that species were fairly knock'd on the head. *Gay.*
 WETNESS. [from *wet*.] The state of being wet; moisture; humidity.
 The wetness of these bottoms often spoils them for corn.
 To WEX. *v. a.* [corrupted from *wax* by Spenser, for a rhyme, and imitated by Dryden.] To grow; to increase.
 She first taught men a woman to obey;
 But when her son to man's estate did wax,
 She it surrender'd. *Fairy Queen, l. ii.*
 She trod a waxing moon, that soon would wane,
 And drinking borrow'd light, he fill'd again. *Dryden.*
 Counting sev'n from noon,
 'Tis Venus' hour, and in the waxing moon.
 WEXAND. *n. f.* [see *wexand*.] The windpipe.
 Air is inguible, and by the rough artery, or wexand, conducted into the lungs. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
 WHALE. *n. f.* [hale, Saxon.] The largest of fish; the largest of the animals that inhabit this globe.
 God created the great whales. *Genesis.*
 Bar'd up with ribs of whale-bone, she did leech
 None of the whale's length, for reach'd her knees. *Sp. Corbet.*
 The greatest whale that swims the sea,
 Does instantly my pow'r obey. *Swift.*
 WHAME. *n. f.*
 The whame, or burrel-fly, is vexatious to horses in summer, not by stinging, but by their bumblyous noise, or tickling them in sticking their nits on the hair. *Durham.*
 WHALY. *adj.* [see *wal*.] Marked in streaks.
 A bearded goat, whose rugged hair,
 And whaly eyes, the sign of jealousy,
 Was like the person's self, whom he did bear. *Fa. Queen.*
 WHARF. *n. f.* [warf, Swedish; *werf*, Dutch.] A perpendicular bank or mole, raised for the convenience of lading or emptying vessels.
 Dulter should'st thou be, than the fat weed,
 That roots itself in ease on Lethe's wharf,
 Would'st thou not stir in this. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*
 There were not in London used so many wharfs, or keys, for the landing of merchants goods. *Child on Trade.*
 WHARFAGE. *n. f.* [from *wharf*.] Dues for landing at a wharf.
 WHARFINGER. *n. f.* [from *wharf*.] One who attends a wharf.
 To WHURR. *v. n.* To pronounce the letter *r* with too much force. *Diit.*
 WHAT. *pronoun.* [hæc, Saxon; *wat*, Dutch.]
 1. That which.
 What you can make her do,
 I am content to look on; what to speak,
 I am content to hear. *Shakespeare. Winter Tale.*
 In these cases we examine the why, the what, and the how of things.
 He's with a superstitious fear not aw'd,
 For what befalls at home, or what abroad. *Dryden.*
 A satire on one of the common flaps, never meets with that approbation, as what is aimed at a person whose merit places him upon an eminence. *Addison.*
 Mark what it is his mind aims at in the question, and not what words he expresses. *Lake.*
 If any thing be stated in a different manner from what you like, tell me freely. *Pope to Swift.*
 Whatever commodities lie under the greatest discouragements from England, those are what they are most industrious in cultivating. *Swift.*
 2. Which part.
 If we rightly estimate things, what in them is purely owing to nature, and what to labour, we shall find ninety-nine parts of a hundred are wholly to be put on the account of labour. *Lake.*
 3. Some-

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3. Something that is in one's mind indefinitely.
 I tell thee what, corporal, I could tear her. *Shakespeare.*
 4. Which of several.
 Whether it were the shortness of his foresight, the strength of his will, or the dazling of his suspicions, or what it was, certain it is, that the perpetual troubles of his fortunes could not have been without some main errors in his nature. *Bacon.*
 Comets are rather gazed upon than wisely observed; that is, what kind of comet for magnitude, colour, placing in the heaven, or lasting, produceth what kind of effect. *Bacon.*
 Several natures accompany what colours; for by that you shall induce colours by producing those natures. *Bacon.*
 Shew what aliment is proper for that intention, and what intention is proper to be pursued in such a constitution. *Arbuth.*
 5. An interjection by way of surprise or question.
 What! canst thou not forbear me half an hour.
 Then get thee gone, and dig my grave thyself! *Shakespeare.*
 What if I advance an invention of my own to supply the defect of our new writers. *Dryden's Juvenal.*
 6. WHAT THOUGH. What imports it though? notwithstanding.
 An elliptical mode of speech.
 What though a child may be able to read; there is no doubt but the meanest among the people under the law had been as able as the priests themselves were to offer sacrifice, did this make sacrifice of no effect? *Hooker.*
 What though none live my innocence to tell,
 I know it; truth may own a generous pride,
 I clear myself, and care for none beside. *Dryden.*
 7. WHAT TIME, WHAT DAY. At the time when; on the day when.
 What day the genial angel to our fire
 Brought her, more lovely than Pandora. *Milton.*
 Then balmy sleep had charm'd my eyes to rest,
 What time the morn mysterious visions brings,
 While purer slumbers spread their golden wings. *Pope.*
 Me sole daughter of the deep address'd;
 What time with hunger pin'd, my absent mates
 Roam'd the wild life in search of rural cates. *Pope.*
 8. [Pronoun interrogative.] Which of many? interrogatively.
 What art thou,
 That here in desert hast thy habitation?
 What is't to thee if he neglect thy urn,
 Or without spices lets thy body burn?
 What'er I begg'd, thou like a dotard speak'st
 More than is requisite; and what of this?
 Why is it mention'd now?
 What one of an hundred of the zealous bigots in all parties
 ever examined the tenets he is so stiff in?
 When any new thing comes in their way, children take the common question of a stranger, what is it?
 9. To how great a degree, used either interrogatively or demonstratively.
 Am I so much deform'd?
 What partial judges are our love and hate? *Dryden.*
 10. It is used adverbially for partly; in part.
 The enemy having his country wasted, what by himself, and what by the soldiers, findeth succour in no place. *Spenser.*
 Thus, what with the war, what with the sweat, what with the gallowes, and what with poverty, I am custom frunk. *Sho.*
 The year before, he had so used the matter, that what by force, what by policy, he had taken from the Christians above thirty small castles. *Knight's Hist. of the Turks.*
 When they come to cast up the profit and loss, what betwixt force, interest, or good manners, the adventurer escapes well, if he can but get off.
 What with carrying apples, grapes, and fowls, he finds himself in a hurry. *L'Estrange.*
 What with the benefit of their situation, the art and parliamony of their people, they have grown so considerable, that they have treated upon an equal foot with great princes. *Tem.*
 They live a popular life, and then what for business, pleasures, company, there's scarce room for a morning's reflection. *Norris.*
 If these halfpence should gain admittance, in no long space of time, what by the clandestine practices of the coiner, what by his own counterfeits and those of others, his limited quantity would be tripled. *Swift.*
 11. WHAT HE. An interjection of calling.
 What he, thou genius of the clime, what he,
 Ly'th thou asleep beneath these hills of snow?
 Stretch out thy lazy limbs. *Dryden.*
 WHAT'EVER. } pronouns. [from *what* and *soever*.] Whatso is
 WHAT'SO. } not now in use.
 1. Having one nature or another; being one or another either generically, specifically or numerically.
 To forfeit all your goods, lands, tenements,
 Cattle, and whatsoe'er, and to be
 Out of the king's protection. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*
 If thence he escape into whatever world.
 In whatever shape he lurk I'll know. *Milton.*
 Wisely rectoring whatsoe'er grace
 It lost by change of times, or tongues or place. *Denham.*

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- Holy writ abounds in accounts of this nature, as much as any other history whatsoe'er. *Addison's Freeholder.*
 No contrivance, no prudence whatsoe'er can devise from his scheme, without leaving us worse than it found us. *Astbury.*
 Thus whatever successive duration shall be bounded at one end, and be all past and present, must come infinitely short of infinity.
 Whatever is read differs as much from what is repeated without book, as a copy does from an original. *Swift.*
 2. Any things, be it what it will.
 Whatsoe'er our liturgy hath more than theists, they cut it off. *Hooker.*
 Whatever thing
 The scythe of time mows down, devour. *Milton.*
 3. The fame, be it this or that.
 Be what'er Vitruvius was before. *Pope.*
 4. All that; the whole that; all particulars that.
 From hence he views with his black lidded eyes,
 Whatso the heaven in his wide vault contains. *Spenser.*
 What'er the ocean pales or sky inclips
 Is things. *Shakespeare.*
 At once came forth whatsoe'er creeps. *Milton.*
 WHEAL. *n. f.* [See WEAL.] A pultice; a small swelling filled with matter.
 The humour cannot transpire, whereupon it corrupts and raises little wheals or blisters. *Wifeman's Surgery.*
 The grain of which bread is chiefly made.
 It hath an apertulous flower, disposed into spikes; each of them consists of many stamina which are included in a squamose flower-cup, having awns; the pointal rises in the center, which afterwards becomes an oblong seed, convex on one side, but furrowed on the other: it is farinaceous, and inclosed by a coat which before was the flower-cup: these are produced singly, and collected in a close spike, being affixed to an indented axis. The species are; 1. White or red wheat, without awn. 2. Red wheat, in some places called Kentish wheat. 3. White wheat. 4. Red-eared bearded wheat. 5. Cone wheat. 6. Grey wheat, and in some places duck-bill wheat and grey pollard. 7. Polonian wheat. 8. Many eared wheat. 9. Summer wheat. 10. Naked barley. 11. Long grained wheat. 12. Six rowed wheat. 13. White eared wheat with long awns: Of all these sorts cultivated in this country, the cone wheat is chiefly preferred, as it has a larger ear and a fuller grain than any other; but the seeds of all should be annually changed; for if they are sown on the same farm, they will not succeed so well as when the seed is brought from a distant country. *Miller.*
 He mildews the white wheat, and hurts the poor creature of the earth. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*
 Reuben went in the days of wheat-harvest. *Gen. xxx.*
 August shall bear the form of a young man of a fierce aspect; upon his head a garland of wheat and rice. *Peasam.*
 Next to rice is wheat; the bran of which is highly ascendent. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*
 The damfels laughing fly: the giddy clown
 Again upon a wheat-sheaf drops a down. *Gay.*
 WHEATEN. *adj.* [from *wheat*.] Made of wheat.
 Of wheaten flour shalt thou make them. *Exod. xxix.*
 Here summer in her wheaten garland crown'd. *Addison.*
 The affize of wheaten bread is in London. *Arbuth.*
 His task it was the wheaten loaves to lay,
 And from the banquet take the bowls away. *Pope.*
 There is a project on foot for transporting our best wheaten straw to Dunstable, and obliging us by law to take off yearly so many tun of the straw hats. *Swift.*
 WHEATEAR. *n. f.* A small bird very delicate.
 What cook would lose her time in picking larks, wheatears, and other small birds. *Swift.*
 WHEATPLUM. *n. f.* A sort of plum. *Ainsworth.*
 To WHEEDLE. *v. a.* [Of this word I can find no etymology, though used by good writers, and Lake seems to mention it as a cant word.] To entice by soft words; to flatter; to persuade by kind words.
 His business was to pump and wheedle,
 And men with their own keys unridle,
 To make them to themselves give answers,
 For which they pay the necromancers. *Hudibras.*
 A fox flood licking of his lips at the cock, and wheedling him to get him down. *L'Estrange.*
 His fire,
 From Mars his forge sent to Minerva's schools
 To learn the unlucky art of wheedling fools. *Dryden.*
 He that first brought the word sham, or wheedle, in use, put together as he thought fit, ideas he made it stand for. *Lake.*
 A laughing, toying, wheedling, whimpering she,
 Shall make him amble on a goliap's mellage. *Rowe.*
 The world has never been prepared for these trifles by practices, wheedled or troubled with exiles. *Pope.*
 Johnny